

Theology Seminar: Cults and Sects

Session No. 2: Jehovah's Witnesses

Jehovah's Witnesses History: Where Did It Come From?

1. It's **Soil**: Charles Taze Russell's Distaste for Difficult Doctrine and the Appeal of Adventism
2. It's **Roots**: Pastor Russell's New Doctrine and New Movement: *Watchtower Society*
3. It's **Shoots**: The Founding of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in New York by Joseph Smith (1830).
4. It's **Fruits**: Nathan Knorr's New Evangelism Strategy and New Bible Translation: *New World Translation*.



Jehovah's Witnesses Authority: What Do They Read?

1. **The *New World Translation* of the Bible:** A biased "translation" of the Bible tailor-made for JW theology
2. ***The Watchtower* and *Awake!*:** Magazines published since 1879 with record-breaking circulation, serving as the official means of sharing JW beliefs.

Jehovah's Witnesses Theology: What Do They Teach?

1. **Jehovah** Is God's one, true, and only name.
2. **The Trinity** is a pagan lie invented by Satan.

3. **Jesus** is a lesser god, created by Jehovah as Michael the Archangel
4. **The Holy Spirit** is an impersonal force.
5. **Humans** are “living souls,” with no immaterial nature.
6. **Death** ushers in “soul sleep.”
7. **Salvation** can be earned thanks to Christ’s free gift.
8. **The Second Coming** was an invisible, spiritual event in 1914.



7. **Heaven** has two peoples: (1) The Anointed Class Who Rule Above and (2) the Other Sheep Who Are Ruled Below
8. **Hell** is not a place of eternal conscious suffering.

Jehovah's Witnesses Differences: Why Is It A Cult?

1. Deny **Who God Really Is**
2. Deny **What God Really Said**
3. Deny **Who We Really Are**
4. Deny **What We Really Need**